
International Shipping Instructions (Originating Outside the USA)

We recommend shipping by FedEx: <http://fedex.com/>

The following are also “full service” carriers. There are many advantages to using a full service carrier. They provide services such as in-transit temperature monitoring, comprehensive guidance with country-specific import requirements, refrigerated trucking services and expedited customs brokerage.

- World Courier <http://www.worldcourier.com/>
- Aeronet <http://www.aeronet.com>
- Quick <http://www.quickintl.com/>
- Kintetsu World Express <http://www.kwe.com/>
- TNL International <http://www.tnlintl.co.nz/>

If shipping from **Australia, Greece, or France** we strongly suggest using a full service agency (such as Aeronet) to ensure samples arrives intact.

Shipments are primarily delayed because of incomplete or improperly completed paperwork. Review the forms line-by-line with the shipper.

***A commercial invoice must be included with the package.** With any shipper, please choose “door-to-door service.”

Be aware that there are several obstacles to importing biological materials into the USA:

1) USDA Import Permit Requirements (<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ncie/imicro.html>)

The USDA inspector may consider DNA as “extracts of microorganisms” or “microbially produced biochemical.” A USDA import permit will not be required for microbially-produced biochemicals if the following is provided in the shipping documents:

- A detailed and accurate description of the material including genetic insert and origin.
- A declaration, if applicable, indicating that the material is produced by microbial fermentation.
- A declaration stating the material does not contain any animal or cell culture derived products or additives such as albumin or serum.
- State that the product is non-hazardous, non-toxic and non-pathogenic, if applicable.
- Describe the end use.
- This information must be supplied as ORIGINAL statements on producer/shipper letterhead in a clear and concise manner, and be available for review by the USDA Inspector at the Port of Arrival. We recommend that a separate memo or letter be included with the shipping documents, such as U.S. Customs declaration and invoice.

Example: “The material contains small pieces of genomic DNA. The DNA is

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from Glycine max. It's origin is a soybean. The material was not generated by microbial fermentation. The product does not contain animal or cell derived materials or additives. The material is non-toxic, non-hazardous and nonpathogenic. The end use is for the creation of DNA samples used by the Joint Genome Institute. This package is temperature sensitive and needs to be handled in a timely manner. (list your contact information here)"

- Do not put documents INSIDE shipping containers.

2) Harmonized Tariff (<http://www.usitc.gov/tata/> and <http://www.usitc.gov/tata/hts/bychapter/index.htm>)

Note the Harmonized Tariff Schedule Number 3002.10.01.90 on the shipping documents. The HTS is a US Customs classification used to calculate a tariff charge. For this material, the tariff is free. This HTS number classifies the material as *"Human blood; animal blood prepared for therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic uses; anti-sera and other blood fractions and modified immunological products, whether or not obtained by means of biotechnological processes; vaccines, toxins, cultures of micro-organisms (excluding yeasts) and similar products: Other"*. (Note the "similar products: Other" section of this description.)

3) General Considerations

- Do place statements like:
NON-INFECTIOUS/NON-HAZARDOUS/NOT AN ETIOLOGIC AGENT/NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION. SHIPMENT CONSISTS OF STERILE DNA. FOR SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS ONLY in the shipping documentation to facilitate transit through U.S. Customs.
- Make sure the shipping box looks clean. A new outer box without an excess of tape is best. Otherwise, remove or black out preexisting labels on the shipping box. Conflicting signage on the box is strongly discouraged.
- To date, we have had good luck with Overnight FedEx, which usually takes about two days to arrive to California.
- Avoid shipping around a U.S. Federal holiday. Ship on a Monday or Tuesday, overnight delivery. Please note the only locations that have overnight delivery are Canadian cities close to the US border. Most countries in the European Union will take 2 to 3 working days. Shipments from other countries can take 4 to 5 days for delivery (If it will take 4 or 5 days, please ship only on a Monday or a Friday). Please package samples with dry ice or ice packs accordingly.

Three addresses will need to be visible on the package:

1. Your full name and contact information as the exporter!!
(*phone number & email address are required)

2. Consignee's Name and Shipping Address:
Univ. of California/Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
DOE – Joint Genome Institute
c/o Pei Lin

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Proposal ID # _____
2800 Mitchell Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
(925) 296-5730

3. Intermediate Consignee Address:

AeroNet Worldwide
850 Mitten Road
Burlingame, CA 94010
Contact: ask for Mary Ellen or ask for someone in 'The Import Department'
Tel: 650-259-2155

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